

phase-shifting plates placed between the polarizers, wherein the phase-shifting plates represent a continuous layer of an optically anisotropic material containing regions differing by value of phase shift and/or direction of fast optical axis.

12. The decorative material of claim 11, wherein the optically anisotropic material represents a molecularly oriented film deposited onto an optically isotropic base.

13. A decorative material, comprising:
two polarizers, wherein each polarizer has a controlled direction of polarization axis, and at least one of the polarizers contains several elements differing by directions of their polarization axes; and

phase-shifting plates placed between the polarizers, wherein the phase-shifting plates represent a continuous layer of a homogeneous optical anisotropic material.

14. The decorative material of claim 11 or 13, wherein the anisotropic film is placed in a transparent vessel filled with a transparent or weakly colored liquid medium, and the polarizers are placed in the inner surface of the vessel.

15. The decorative material of claim 11 or 13, wherein the anisotropic film is placed in a transparent vessel filled with a transparent or weakly colored liquid medium, and the polarizers are placed in the outer surface of the vessel.

16. The decorative material of claim 13, wherein at least one of the polarizers represents a film of molecularly oriented organic substance deposited immediately onto an optically anisotropic material.

17. The decorative material of claim 13, wherein at least one of the polarizers represents a film of molecularly oriented organic substance deposited onto a transparent sublayer predeposited onto a surface of an anisotropic material.

18. The decorative material of claim 16 or 17, wherein the molecularly oriented film represents a layer of an organic substance comprising lyotropic liquid crystals.